

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The sheets of drawings attached in the Appendix include changes to Figs. 5-8. These sheets replace the original sheets filed with the application. The corrected Figs. 5-8 are being submitted to include the filter recited in claim 4, denoted as elements 301, 501, 701, 801 and 1001, as requested in the Office Action dated November 21, 2005. No new matter is added.

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated November 21, 2005, claims 1-6 are pending with claims 1, 2, and 4-6 being rejected. Claim 3 is objected to. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Reexamination and reconsideration of the claims as requested is respectfully requested.

Applicants are grateful for the Examiner's acknowledgement of the Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 6, 2004.

Drawings

In paragraph 1 on page 2 of the Office Action, the drawings were objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) as failing to show every feature of the invention as specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner states that the filter recited in claim 4 and the wafer body recited in claim 5 should be shown in the figures.

Accordingly, FIGs. 5 through 8 are amended to include a filter, shown in the figures as element 301 in FIG. 5(a), element 501 in FIG. 6(a), element 701 in FIG. 7(a), element 801 in FIG. 7(b) and element 1001 in FIG. 8. In each of these figures, the filter is the upper leftmost element, and is disposed between a signal previously labeled as "V_r" and a signal currently labeled as "V_r". Replacement sheets that include FIGs. 5-8 are attached in the Appendix.

The limitation in claim 5 that recites a wafer body. Part C, is deleted.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

In paragraph 2 on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by Severin (U.S. Patent No. 3,735,254). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but have amended the application to overcome the objections.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3. The Examiner states in paragraph 7 on page 6 of the Office Action that claim 3 would be allowable if

written in independent form. Hence, amended claim 1 includes all the limitations of claim 3 and should therefore be allowable.

The limitations of claim 2 are incorporated into amended claim 1, and claim 2 is cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §103

In paragraph 4 on page 4 of the Office Action, claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Severin in view of Takeuchi, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,583,446). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but have amended the application to overcome the objections.

In paragraph 5 on page 4 of the Office Action, claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Severin in view of Cheng (U.S. Patent No. 6,154,041). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but have amended the application to overcome the objections.

In paragraph 6 on page 5 of the Office Action, claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Severin in view of Marumo, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,525,911). The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection, but have amended the application to overcome the objections.

Claim 1 is amended to include the limitations of claims 2 and 3. The Examiner states in paragraph 7 on page 6 of the Office Action that claim 3 would be allowable if written in independent form. Hence, amended claim 1 includes all the limitations of claim 3 and should therefore be allowable.

Claims 4-6, which all depend from amended claim 1 and therefore include the limitations of claim 3, are therefore also allowable.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 7 on page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that claim 3 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim.

Accordingly, claim 3 is amended to appear in independent form, incorporating all the limitations of the base claim 1.

Therefore, claim 3 should be in condition for allowance.

In paragraph 8 on page 6 of the Office Action, claim 5 is objected to because Part C of claim 5 is confusing. The Applicants respectfully traverse this objection, but have amended claim 5 to overcome this objection by deleting Part C.

Informalities

Claims 1, 3, 5 and 6 include amendments to correct minor errors in capitalization, grammar and punctuations. These amendments do not alter the scope of any of these claims. No new matter is added.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and reasons provided above, it is believed that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. The amendments clarify the patentable invention without adding new subject matter. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early allowance of all pending claims.

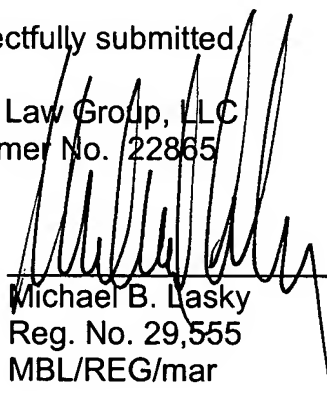
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' attorney of record, Michael B. Lasky at (952) 253-4106.

Respectfully submitted

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Date: April 14, 2006

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APPENDIX